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Bombay (general) June 1947 to September 1947

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K o l h a p u r
11th J u l y, 47.

To

Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
New Delhi.

Sir,

I have already sent you wire of my resignation of the membership of the Constituent Assembly. I am now writing to you this letter confirming my resignation of the same. I think I have done my duty in accordance with your advice. When Mr. Latthe- the Constitutional Adviser of Kolhapur State - comes to Delhi you will, I hope, discuss with him about my acceptance of the office of the Minister for Kolhapur. From him you will understand that I have taken up the Post of Minister for Education, Judiciary and Local Self Government with the advice of His Highness and Mr. Latthe.

Nothing more to write for the present. I hope to see you sometime either in Bombay or in Delhi. I am very glad that you have chosen Dr. Ambedkar on behalf of the Congress Party as one of the members of the Constituent Assembly. I hope this selection of Dr. Ambedkar will cement the bond of cooperation between the depressed class and the Congress.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S. N. MANE.)

K. 11.7.

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To:

Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhabhai Patel,
New Delhi.

Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of 18th J u n e, 1947. I believe, if I am right, that according to your letter that I can continue to be the member of that Bombay Assembly if His - Highness the Maharaja of Kolhapur permits me to do so.

2. As far as the membership of the Constituent Assembly is concerned I am to send my resignation in accordance with your advice.

3. In my humble opinion, I think, in your - judgment, once I accept the post of the minister in the State, I will be guided by the opinion of Maharaja of Kolhapur in Constituent Assembly. As a matter of fact I have made it clear to His Highness that I will be guided at the dictates of the - Congress both in the Constituent Assembly and Bombay Assembly. His Highness emphatically told me that he had permitted me to act according to the discipline and decision of the Congress both in Constituent Assembly and Bombay Legislature.

4. From the first day of my visit to you in the month of November, 1945, you have been very nice to me. You have selected me not only as one of the members of the Constituent Assembly, but you gave me chance to be one of the members of the Steering Committee of the Constituent Assembly. If I had any idea that I have to resign from the membership of the Constituent Assembly I would - never have accepted this job. As the Maharaja has lot of landed property of his own I thought it wise to accept the ministerial post in accordance with his desire and advise him to grant part of his lands to the poor backward class people and peasants. I believe that my political future is safe in your

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hand. It was my idea that I should be one of those lucky few who would sign the final draft constitution of India, but my wrong decision is coming in my way. I hope, if possible, you can reconsider about the decision of my resignation.

Mr. Nijlingappa, the President of the Karnatak Provincial Congress Committee is going to write to you about my acceptance of the office at Kolhapur to-day. Mr. Latthe is starting for Delhi in a day or two. He will discuss with you about my membership in the Constituent Assembly and the circumstances under which I have to accept the post of Minister of Kolhapur.

If, inspite of all this, you think it desirable that I should resign from my membership of the Constitution Assembly, I will do it with due respect to you. I hope, you will not misunderstand me and have the same love for me as you had before.

Your most obedient servant,

(S. N. PATIL)

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